

# Rotary International

## Stance on Abortion/Contraception

[https://rotarymch.org/1/38/RFPD Approach to Maternal and Child Health MCH/](https://rotarymch.org/1/38/RFPD%20Approach%20to%20Maternal%20and%20Child%20Health%20MCH/)

Rotary International has an action group for “Reproductive, Maternal, and Child Health.” In this statement from Rotary’s RMCH, it says it does the following:

**MCH services encompass maternal, prenatal, delivery and postnatal care, family planning education and other sexual and reproductive health care services.** This includes the promotion of breastfeeding, **child spacing**, and other activities that prevent, reduce and treat the effects of malnutrition among children and their mothers.

[https://rotarymch.org/1/8/Rotarians Implement Projects Addressing Reproductive Health/](https://rotarymch.org/1/8/Rotarians%20Implement%20Projects%20Addressing%20Reproductive%20Health/)

A further look shows that Rotary International promotes contraception and “safe” abortion through its projects:

Rotarians in more than 160 countries are motivated to alleviate human suffering through humanitarian projects. Reproductive health concerns, probably the most personal and arguably the most devastating, affect people in all countries, but especially those in the developing countries. They include:

- Maternal mortality - approximately one each minute - 540,000 annually
- Infant mortality
- Teen-age pregnancy
- Unintended pregnancy - all ages
- Unsafe abortion
- Assisted Childbirth
- Obstetric Fistula
- STD's Sexually Transmitted Diseases

<https://rotarymch.org/blog/528/webinars-by-knowledge-success>

RMCH features resource videos from Knowledge Success, which promotes contraception use for postpartum and postabortion “care.”

[https://rotaryrmch.org/1/41/Postpartum Family Planning in Pakistan/](https://rotaryrmch.org/1/41/Postpartum%20Family%20Planning%20in%20Pakistan/)

RMCH’s post discusses its “assistance” to providing contraception to Pakistani families for family planning:

Emphasis is placed in this project on the provision of long-acting reversible contraceptive methods (LARCS) such as IUCD and hormonal implant insertion. Short-acting and temporary methods are also counselled and provided in response to the need for informed choice. Women interested in reducing unintended pregnancies and health systems focused on reducing unmet need share these priorities. All contraceptives provided are safe, effective and demonstrated to be culturally appropriate for the project area.

[https://map.rotary.org/en/project/pages/project\\_detail.aspx?guid=9B366354-8EE7-49BC-BD85-C2E72F48211E](https://map.rotary.org/en/project/pages/project_detail.aspx?guid=9B366354-8EE7-49BC-BD85-C2E72F48211E)

Rotary featured a guest speaker at one of its events in Nigeria to discuss the advantages of birth control.

<https://www.rifpd.org/blog/303/strengthening-saheli-center-model-for-empowering-women-in-india>

This blog article featured on Rotary’s website discusses the maternal health crisis for women in India. However, it says contraception is the solution:

It is estimated that more than 26 million children are born in India every year and out of this about 6 million births have been classified as unplanned. Approximately two-thirds of the unintended pregnancies resulted from non-use of contraceptives; clearly indicating the need for easy availability of quality reproductive health services. In addition, around one-third of unintended pregnancies resulted from the ineffective use of

contraceptives, which suggests the need for improved counseling and follow-up of couples that adopt a method. The consequences of unintended pregnancy are serious, imposing significant burden on women and families, and in turn slowing down the process of women empowerment. Unintended pregnancy breeds powerlessness and powerlessness breeds subordination (quality of obedient submissiveness) and subordination breeds unintended pregnancy. And women find themselves in a vicious circle. Thus, there is an urgent need to provide reproductive health services looking to the needs of women.

The article goes on to quote Planned Parenthood's founder, Margaret Sanger, about birth control and suggests how Rotary can help strengthen women's "reproductive rights" at the Saheli Center in India.

<https://www.rotarymm.org/contraception/>

Rotary International's affiliate in Manilla, Philippines, provides this graphic to showcase its idea of "effective" family planning.

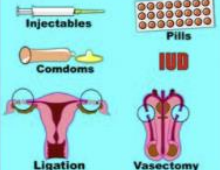
# EFFECTIVE FAMILY PLANNING

**GENDER EQUALITY**




**WOMEN/GENDER EQUALITY-RESPONSIBLE PARENTHOOD**

**CONTRACEPTIVES**



**TOO MANY BABIES**



**HAPPY FAMILY**



**NO YES**  
**CHOOSE**

**TEEN PREGNANCY**





**SUFFERING FAMILY**

- \*Increase in Maternal and Child Death
- \*Malnutrition Hunger Poverty
- \*Greater Exposure to Illnesses
- \*Crowded Living Conditions
- \*Exposure to Child Abuse
- \*Exposure to Sex Trafficking
- \*Lack of Proper Education

**HEALTHY FAMILY**

\*Goals of Proper Child Care and Rearing:

1. Physical: Nutrition, Clothing, Shelter
2. Mental: Adequate Education, Income
3. Emotional: Harmonious Family, Love

\*Reduction in Maternal/Child Death

**NO GENDER EQUALITY: CYCLE OF HUMAN DEGRADATION CONTINUES, WIDENS**

**GENDER EQUALITY: A BRIGHTER FUTURE**

## **Stance on LGBTQ+ Lifestyle**

<https://www.rotary.org/en/rotarys-rainbow>

Rotary International has an LGBTQ+ group called “Rotary’s Rainbow.”

<https://rotarylgbt.org/>

On its website, Rotary International lists the goals of its LGBTQ+ group:

The LGBT+ Rotary Fellowship is a group in the family of Rotary, dedicated to promoting global friendship, service and education. The fellowship aims to create an inclusive, understanding and welcoming community, fostering goodwill and peace, and realising a world that achieves fundamental fairness and equality for LGBT+ people...The LGBT+ Rotary Fellowship connects members of the Rotary Family and works to build an organisation that is welcoming to members of the LGBT+ community. We work to connect members in friendship, educate clubs to be more inclusive and work with the Rotary Family to develop and support service projects that impact and benefit LGBT+ communities.

## **Partnerships**

<https://www.rotary.org/en/about-rotary/partnerships>

Rotary International’s active partnerships include the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, UNICEF, USAID, CDC, and WHO.



P.O. Box 6170, Falmouth, VA 22403 • 540-659-4171 • [ALL.org](http://ALL.org) • [kvandyke@all.org](mailto:kvandyke@all.org)

© 2023 American Life League, Inc. All rights reserved. Permission is given to cite or copy parts of the document as long as attribution is given to American Life League (ALL.org).